

## ABILENE REFLECTOR

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### CURRENT COMMENT.

The English Derby winner, Ormonde, has been sold to an American for \$17,000.

PHILADELPHIA & Reading employees have had their hours and pay cut down.

The proposed clearing house plan to govern Western railroads is reported to be dead.

It is said that Boyle & Co., iron brokers of Pittsburgh, Pa., have cornered the local market.

JOHN BRISSEN WALKER, a Denver capitalist, has purchased the *Cosmopolitan Magazine*, of New York.

The leading plug tobacco manufacturers of the United States held a secret conference in Cincinnati on the 4th.

COFFEE was excited at New York on the 4th, prices going up about ten cents a pound. A short crop in Brazil and diminished holdings caused the advance.

QUEEN VICTORIA has begun to show a most uncomfortable mode of displaying her affection for her favorites. Instead of presenting her friends with India shawls she now gives them handsomely bound copies of her book of travels.

A CALL has been issued by the *Northwestern Miller* for a meeting of the millers of the United States to be held at the Plankinton House, Milwaukee, to consider the state of the trade. A large attendance has been guaranteed by millers from all parts of the country.

GENERAL TOM POUCH, a dwarf who has been exhibited in America and Europe, died recently at Cleveland, O., of old age. His correct name was Ernest Geyer. He was three feet tall, and for several years past conducted a cigar store in Cleveland, where he had a six-foot brother.

THE *Biforma*, of Rome, in speaking of President Cleveland's message, approves of the suggestion regarding naturalization laws and their revision. Many immigrants abuse their rights in order to escape duties to the mother land, especially military service. This state of things causes inconvenience.

SENATOR REAGAN has introduced a bill for the free coinage of silver. It provides that all holders of silver bullion of the value of \$50 or more shall be entitled to have it coined into standard silver dollars, of 412½ grains troy to the dollar, upon the same terms as gold is now coined for private holders.

The Secretary of War has issued a general order directing that when not prevented by active service, all the available infantry, cavalry and light artillery of the army shall devote a part of each summer to practice marches, maneuvers and other field operations, simulating the operations of actual war.

The steamer *Alvo*, from Hayti, brings copies of an appeal from General Hyppolite and the Northern insurgents accusing General Legitime of being the leader of a band of cut-throats and adventurers and asking all Governments not to recognize Legitime until the true condition of affairs is ascertained.

It is reported in New York that a syndicate of wealthy New Yorkers has been formed to complete the Panama canal. The syndicate includes Morton, Bliss & Co., Eugene Kelly and others, who are already interested in the American Dredging Company. It is estimated that it will take between \$50,000,000 and \$75,000,000 to complete the work. James D. Leary, of Nova Scotia raft fame, is at the head of the syndicate and claims that he can complete the work in two years.

The National Alliance, the National Wheel and the Co-operative Union of Farmers, which three organizations were in joint conference recently at Meridian, Miss., have succeeded in effecting a consolidation under the name of the Alliance Wheel and Co-operative Union of America, and a constitution and by-laws have been agreed upon. Evan Jones, of Texas, was chosen president; Isaac McCracken, of Arkansas, vice-president; W. E. Gardner, of Tennessee, secretary, and Sam Tanner, of Louisville, treasurer.

The chairman of the Harrison Insular Committee has received letters from several of the Governors of the States who were asked to name a prominent Republican who would act on the committee. The following have been named: Kansas: Colonel D. B. Anthony, Leavenworth; Connecticut: Major J. G. Rathburn, Hartford; Massachusetts: Dr. F. L. Burden, North Attleborough; Michigan: D. A. Blodgett, Grand Rapids; Vermont: Colonel Julius J. Estey, Brattleboro; Pennsylvania: William B. Leeds, Philadelphia; New York: H. B. Phillips, Brooklyn; General H. A. Barnum, New York; Maryland: General E. W. Ross, Baltimore.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND, in his message recommended the passage of a bill for the refunding to "certain German steamship lines of the interest upon tonnage dues illegally exacted." It is learned that the interest claimed amounted to about \$80,000 and is due to the Hamburg-American and North German Lloyd Companies. From 1863 and for several years these two companies paid, without protest, tonnage dues upon their vessels coming into the United States, in all about \$100,000. Later it was discovered that these dues were paid in contravention of the treaties, and the claims of the companies were recognized by this Government, which, in 1878, refunded the amount of dues so paid. Claims were afterward made for the interest on the amount.

## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Gleaned by Telegraph and Mail.

### CONGRESS.

The Senate met on the 3d and was called to order promptly at twelve o'clock. A committee was appointed to wait on the President and to report on the message. Upon re-assembling the committee reported that the President would immediately communicate with the Senate in writing. The message was then received and read and the Senate adjourned. The House met at noon with eighty-eight members absent. The Senate was in session at the presence of a quorum. A committee was appointed to wait on the President and to report on the message. Upon re-assembling the committee reported that the President would immediately communicate with the Senate in writing. The message was then received and read and the Senate adjourned.

AFTER the presentation of department reports in the Senate on the 4th a number of bills were introduced, one being for the construction of two steel runs to be armed with heavy dynamite guns. The Union Pacific bill went over and the tariff bill was taken up for consideration. Pending the reading further thought was given to the tariff bill and the bill went over for the day. Adjourned. In the House, after the presentation of department reports and various petitions, Mr. Dingley, of Maine, called up a bill appropriating \$500 to erect a monument to Major General Henry Knox at Thomaston, Me. On this bill a dead lock ensued and the House adjourned.

AFTER several resolutions had been introduced in the Senate on the 5th the Senate tariff bill was taken up, and Mr. Harris moved to lay the Senate substitute for the House bill on the table. The motion was lost by a strict party vote. The Senate bill was then read for amendment and pending consideration the Senate adjourned. The House adjourned on the 5th. The President's message was read and the House adjourned. The Senate adjourned on the 5th. The President's message was read and the House adjourned.

Is the Senate on the 6th a communication was received from the Secretary of State transmitting a certified copy of the final ascertainment of the Presidential Electors in Kansas. A similar communication had also been received to several other States. This action was the result of the law of 1887, and being a proceeding led to some discussion. The papers were finally referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. The tariff bill was then taken up and considered at some length. A joint resolution was offered by Senator Butler extending the Presidential term to six years. Adjourned. The House after routine business, took up the Direct tax bill and debate continued until adjournment.

The Senate was not in session on the 7th. In the House the invalid Pension bill was reported and referred to the Committee of the Whole. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the private calendar, and the bill to incorporate the Nicaragua Company was the only business considered. At the evening session ten pension bills passed and the House adjourned until Monday.

### PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

The Postmaster-General has concluded and signed a parcel post convention with the republic of Guatemala.

Laurens, of the reaction adverse to the Egyptian policy of the Salisbury Government was rejected in the British House of Commons on the 4th by 231 to 189. The Government came near being defeated, runners being sent out to fetch in supporters.

MAYORIAL elections in Massachusetts on the 4th went in favor of the Republicans.

The official canvass of Nebraska is: Harrison 108,425; Cleveland 80,552; Fisk 8,429; Streeter 4,228.

OVERCAST returns from all the States, excepting Colorado, give Cleveland a plurality of 110,904. In Colorado Harrison's plurality was estimated at 12,648. Cleveland thus had a plurality of the popular vote of 98,261.

GEORGE R. E. SPINNEY, formerly United States Treasurer, is said to be suffering from cancer. He is living at Pablo Beach, Fla., and is eighty years old.

PRINCE KARAGEORGEVITCH, a claimant to the throne of Serbia, is dying in Austria.

The President resumed his receptions to the public on the 5th, but, as it was not generally known, only a small number were present.

The Secretary of the Navy has appointed a board to select a site for a navy yard on the northwest coast.

The bill leasing "the Strip" to the C. S. L. S. A. has passed both houses of the Cherokee National Council and is awaiting the approval of Chief Mayes to become law.

The Russian railway officials have been ordered to observe the same economy toward ex-Queen Natalie, of Serbia, as is shown at Grand Duchesse.

The Portuguese Government announces a blockade of the Portuguese coast in East Africa.

The King of Portugal was attacked with a congestive chill recently and was seriously ill.

The following is the official vote of Illinois: For President—Harrison, 570,473; Cleveland, 548,272; Fisk, 21,686; Streeter, 10,090. For Vice-President—Harrison, 259,201; Cleveland, 259,201; Fisk, 21,686; Streeter, 10,090. For Governor—Harrison, 367,890; Fisk, 365,218; Hart, 19,915; Jones, 5,384. Fisk's plurality, 12,547.

The funeral ceremonies over the remains of the late General R. B. Ayres, U. S. A., were held on the 7th at Trinity Church, Washington.

SECRETARY WHITNEY has ordered three more vessels to Hayti, instructed to demand the release of the steamer *Haytien* Republic.

GEORGE W. SEWARD, a brother of Secretary of State Seward, died at Florida, N. Y., recently, aged eighty.

ARTIST WALKER of the London *Graphic* has been killed at Suakin by an Arab besieger of the town.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

By the fall of a wall of a building recently burned in Hamilton, Ont., the other day three workmen were fatally injured and twelve more or less hurt.

The Supreme Court of Louisiana has decided that the capital of a business in United States bonds is liable to State taxation.

The blacksmithing department and wood working and finishing rooms of the extended Cortlandt wagon works at Cortlandt, N. Y., were destroyed by recently. The company has an insurance of \$211,000, which it is thought will cover the loss.

By a collision between two trains on a curve near Youngstown, O., the other morning, one man was killed, two fatally injured and a fourth badly hurt. Both engines and ten cars were wrecked.

THE FORTS has signed a convention with the Seligman, the American bankers, providing for the junction of the Turkish and Greek railways. It was rejected for political reasons. The English, German and French tenders to carry out this project.

A NUMBER of men who were on a strike in Belgium exploded dynamite cartridges in the vicinity of the houses of obnoxious employers the other night, but no one was injured. At several places the strikers paraded the streets bearing French flags, which they cheered heartily.

THE attempt to consolidate the Federated Miners with the Knights of Labor at Columbus, O., was reported a virtual failure on the 5th.

CANONICET, ex-Governor Sprague's colossal and famous residence at Narragansett Pier, R. I., has been sold for \$800,000. It will be used as a high-toned hotel.

INCENDIARIES set fire to Woods, Jenks & Co.'s lumber yards in Cleveland, O., recently and five acres of sawed timber were destroyed, causing a loss of \$20,000.

The joint session of the National and Southern Forestry congresses began at Atlanta, Ga., on the 5th, when Governor Gordon delivered the address of welcome.

R. R. HOURS has been arrested for the murder of his fourteen-year-old daughter, whose body was found in the lake at Eastlake, Ala., recently. It was thought he had also murdered the girl's mother, as she was missing, and he had married another woman the day he was arrested.

Forty Chinese highlanders are dead as the result of their recent factional fight at Portland, Ore. Another was also reported dying.

"OLD HUTCH," of Chicago, has been robbed of \$20,000 by an ex-clerk whom he had trusted.

The stage from Mendocino to Ingrams, Cal., was robbed recently, supposed for a large amount.

A REPORT was current on the 6th that Jay Gould had obtained a controlling interest in the Atchafalaya, Topeka & Santa Fe.

The report was discredited at Boston, but considerable speculation prevailed about it in New York and Chicago.

The *Boletin*, the organ of the postal authorities of Mexico, brings serious charges against the American postal authorities, accusing them of negligence and carelessness and sending mails on long routes.

MICHAEL DWYER's house, about three miles from Blythe, Ont., was burned the other morning and his lawyer, her daughter and three grandchildren were burned to death.

The Board of Trade of Great Falls, Mont., has taken the first step toward a statehood movement in Montana.

GRUNSWACH, a fur dealer of Duluth, Minn., has disappeared, leaving debts running well up into the thousands.

The front of Henry Diehl's seven-story malt house, corner of Niagara and Maryland streets, Buffalo, N. Y., fell out recently, burying Anthony Anne and Fred Meyer. Anne was rescued, but died minutes after the disaster. Meyer was killed.

The strike of the Montana Union road has been settled. Master Mechanic Ross, whose discharge the engineers demanded, was laid off and the engineers returned to work.

DON DOMINGO OLIVA, criminal judge for the district of La Cathedral, Havana, Cuba, recently received an infernal machine in the shape of a writing desk. In trying to open it he was seriously injured, wounded by the explosion which followed.

FOUR men and one woman committed suicide in New York City on the 6th. Three of the victims were German and one man and the woman were French.

By the wrecking of the steamship *Hartlepool* at Egersund, Norway, recently seventeen of her crew were lost.

RIOTS have occurred at Rennes, France, among the workmen. Troops were sent to quell the disturbances.

The drought still continues in Victoria, Australia, but fine rains have fallen in Queensland.

BUSINESS failures (Dun's report) for the seven days ended December 6 numbered 305, compared with 232 the previous week and 254 the corresponding week last year.

HERMAN, one of the men charged with attempted robbery and murder of Phil Daly, the sporting man, in a New York flat, when attempting the "badger game" of blackmail, has confessed. He lays the chief blame on his confederate Meredith.

A reward of \$10,000 has been offered by the Calumet and Hecla Copper Mining Company for the arrest of the man who set fire to the Calumet shaft Thanksgiving day. The fire was reported growing worse.

THE Miners' Progressive Union completed its organization at Columbus, O., on the 7th by the adoption of a constitution and election of officers.

OWING to a dispute at a recent meeting of the Paris Municipal Council, two of the members—M. Monroval, a Bonapartist, and M. Chautemps, an irreconcilable—fought a duel. The weapons used were swords and M. Chautemps received a wound in the arm.

By a collision in the suburbs of Chicago the other morning between a long Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago freight train, drawn by three engines, and a switch engine, all four engines were ruined and several box cars demolished. Loss \$30,000.

AFTER four days of intense suffering without food or drink and lashed to the after-cabin, four survivors of the crew of the schooner *Ethel M. Davis* were rescued Thanksgiving day and brought to New York. Three were drowned in the hurricane of November 10.

It is reported that in various districts of Ireland, in Limerick especially, the distress among the agricultural laborers is enormous. Many are asking to be assisted to emigrate to Buenos Ayres.

### ADDITIONAL DISPATCHES.

SOCIALISTS raided a meeting of Catholics at Amsterdam, Holland, recently, called for the purpose of erecting a statue to the Pope. A pitched battle followed and many arrests were made.

The Congressional Directory for the present Congress contains an unofficial list of the members of the next Congress, showing the Republicans in a majority of five.

THE Ford Immigration Committee is hampered for want of funds to push its investigations.

DISCOVERY was firm with a prospect of money stringency on the London Exchange during the week ended December 6. The German bourses were reported quiet. It was said the German East African Company was being practically ruined by hostilities with the natives.

ALLEGATIONS are made that crooked work was the cause of the bursting of the big gun at Annapolis, Md., recently. It was said the charge was prepared by parties interested in making the gun a failure.

CONGRESSMAN N. W. TUTTING is reported suffering at Oswego, N. Y., from cancer of the tongue.

## KANSAS STATE NEWS.

T. J. ELLIOTT, of Brown County, recently presented the Agricultural College with a very fine collection of stone hatchets, spears and arrow points, avails, burial and other Indian relics. This collection is said to be equal to a similar collection in the Cincinnati O. museum, which is the largest in the world.

The amount paid out by the local pension agency at Topeka for the week ended December 1 was \$38,454.91. The monthly statement shows that there have been 383 additions to the pay roll during the past month, making a total on November 30 of \$5,949. Of the additions 367 were original and the remainder were restorations and transfers from other agencies. There has been a loss during the month of 103. This was caused by death, remarriage, transfers and minors by legal limitation. There is now \$1,600,000 in the treasury to the credit of the Topeka agency which will be used for December payments.

The contract has been let for the excavation of the Hutchinson Underwood-Fowler packing house at Hutchinson, which is said to be one of the largest establishments in Kansas.

HARPER COUNTY had 28,392 acres of winter wheat, of which 19,974 acres were harvested this year, producing 439,402 bushels. The average of bushels to the acre of corn was 72,706 acres, producing 2,181,180 bushels, an average of 30 bushels to the acre. Oats, 30,211 acres produced 1,148,018 bushels, or an average of 38 bushels to the acre.

THE Central Kansas Teachers' Association, recently in session at Hutchinson, elected the following officers: President, John W. Cooper, Newton; vice-president, E. D. Taylor, Edwards County; secretary, Mrs. Mary Ludlow, McPherson; treasurer, Mrs. W. H. New, Coffey County. Four hundred members were in attendance.

THANKSGIVING was duly celebrated at the Soldiers' Home with music and short addresses, and 1,675 veterans partook of an excellent dinner.

At the National Exposition, in progress at Atlanta, Ga., Wyandotte County, Kan., carried off the second prize. The same exhibit was made at the Kansas City Exposition.

PEANUTS are said to be yielding seventy bushels per acre in Kansas.

ELIAS BURCH, a wealthy stockman of Brown County, was attacked by foot-pads at Hiawatha the other night and badly beaten.

H. P. STANLEY, bookkeeper for the Matlock Dry Goods Company at Arkansas City, is reported to have been robbed to the amount of \$9,500. He is supposed to have joined the Canadian colony.

HUGH TIPPANET, a young man of Atchison, was recently arrested for forgery.

SECRETARY MORLEY, of the State Board of Agriculture, who has been in Hutchinson since the 1st of November, reports a wonderful degree of activity and prosperity in the new salt field. Twelve plants have already been established, most of which are now in operation, and many more are contemplated.

The salt deposit at Hutchinson is from 200 to 300 feet below the surface, is 300 feet in thickness, and is almost perfectly pure. The process employed in bringing the salt to the surface is very simple. Between thirty-five and fifty cars of salt are being shipped daily.

A MAN with a spade has recently been terrorizing the people of Fort Scott.

WHILE the tariff bill was under consideration in the United States Senate on the 6th Senator Plumb called attention to the paragraph as to silvered glass, and said that the glass was largely used by furniture manufacturers and was almost entirely of foreign make because the silvers of such glass in the United States was not durable. The duty, he said, added two or three dollars to the cost of a bureau, and if the article was not made here he did not see why the duty should not be reduced.

THE State Horticultural Society recently held its twenty-second annual meeting in Hutchinson. The meeting was an instructive and a fair delegation attended.

The following officers for the ensuing year were elected: President, Hon. L. Houk, Hutchinson; vice-president, Martin Allen, Hays City; treasurer, Frank Holsinger, Rosedale; secretary, G. C. Brackett, Lawrence; trustee, Southern district, L. A. Stinson, Wyandotte.

MRS. WILLIAM ROSS, formerly a well-known society lady of Topeka, was struck by a train near Pontiac, Ill., recently and killed. Her husband's dissipation and losses had driven her insane.

The sheriff and his deputies made a raid upon a whisky joint in Fort Scott the other morning and arrested the proprietors, A. L. Johnson and Charles Mitchell, and locked them up in the upper story of the building. While the officials were searching the cellar for liquors the two men were arrested and jumped from the second story window a distance of eighteen feet, and made their escape.

SECRETARY ADAMS, of the State Historical Society, has just completed a compilation of the Kansas publications reviewed by the society. There are 721 weeklies, nine semi-weeklies, 49 dailies, 6 monthlies, one bi-monthly, four quarterlies and three occasional papers. There are in the State 19 other periodicals which do not furnish copies to the society, making a grand total of 849 publications in Kansas.

A RECENTLY published book by C. C. Lawrence asking for the liberation of C. C. McClintock from the State penitentiary. In July, 1888, McClintock killed his wife at Wichita, after which he attempted to take his own life. McClintock was formerly a well-known lawyer and is now a statesman. He is insane and his friends desire his release for the purpose of placing him in an asylum.

In his forthcoming report to the Legislature State Superintendent Lawhead will in regard to the plan of the next book to be published by the State, the district owning them and permitting the use of them by pupils under certain definite regulations. Among the advantages enumerated are, that pupils are thus supplied with books when needed; that the uniformity is secured; that the system is much less expensive than any other, and that it largely increases the attendance upon the schools, especially from among the poor, who are frequently unable to purchase the necessary books.

On a rainy night in Fort Scott the sixteen-year-old son of a railroad man, lost his life, and a colored boy named Burton had his right leg broken in two places by a freight car on the Southwestern road while crossing Leavenworth.

Two boys had climbed to the top of the car and while they were so riding the rails spread and the car was thrown from the track, rolling down a steep embankment.

GOVERNOR ROBINSON has gone to Washington to attend the International Exposition at Lawrence. He will endeavor to secure an appropriation of \$35,000 for the purpose of erecting new buildings, which it is proposed to use for a chapel and gymnasium.

The liquor sales made by Lawrence during the month of November, and reported to the probate judge, were \$29,350.

THE Methodist Church at Jetmore was recently destroyed by fire, the result of a defective flue. The insurance policy had only expired the day before.

COLUMBIAN recently filed the Secretary of State: St. James Parish, of Harper; Zion Evangelical Lutheran Congregation, of Whitewater, Butler County; the Evangelical Salem Congregational Church, of Leavenworth, and the Cheney Creamery Company, of Cheney.

ARCHBISHOP of the Missouri Pacific shops in that place will increase the population of the city 4,000.

THE State Teachers' Association will hold its annual session in Topeka December 29, 30 and 31.

## SCOFFING AT MARRIAGE.

A Sensible Article on One of the Burning Questions of the Day.

The unseemly discussion which a certain class of newspapers have been making a conspicuous feature in their columns of late of the question, "Is marriage a failure?" is simply a fresh breaking out of the old and nauseous social malady of "free love." It is amazing that any editor who has either any regard for the reputation of his journal or any respect for the welfare of society should countenance the discussion of so grave a theme in the reckless and flippant style and manner in which it is treated by the class of shallow and incoherent writers who, in their anxiety to air their immoral sophistries, delight to exhibit their contempt for those things and institutions which reasonable and good men deem too sacred to be assailable.

The man or woman who seriously asks the question "Is marriage a failure?" is obviously disqualified, by a lack of either virtuous or proper experience, or of intelligent or thoughtful conviction, from answering or even discussing the question at all, the very asking of it being almost proof positive that the one asking it is of the affirmative way of thinking, and that he or she is of that way of thinking because of experiences, observations or theories that are at least superficial, but more probably the resultants of a depraved nature. A married life that has proved a failure because the parties to the contract have had neither enough, mutual forbearance enough nor morality enough to be faithful to its obligations is not a just sample of the marital institution, is not a fair illustration of modern domesticity, is not an exponent of the average family condition of civilized society. It is exceptional and abnormal. A true man and a true woman, entering into the relations of man and wife with rational deliberation, with genuine affection, and with high and pure motives, do not find marriage a failure. They know what they are about before they enter into the intimate and sacred partnership. It is on their part not a matter of impulse, of emotion, of money, nor of passion, but of mutual and reciprocal affection, guided and consummated by the dictates of reason and of a thoughtful anticipation of all the possibilities and all the contingencies that are involved in the solemn compact. Such matches are made in heaven, are heavenly in their lifelong continuance, and extend beyond this life into heaven itself.

Marriage is a failure only when the man or the woman is a failure in his manhood or in her womanhood. It is never a failure when the man and the woman are true to themselves and to each other. It is never a failure where the feeling and the motive and the purpose are right. It is never a failure where true love and honor are the links of unity. It is never a failure where good sense and good principle lead to and control the relationship. It is very rarely a failure, in any event, where children are its fruitage and the family altar is the center of its daily sanctification.

Those who sneer and mock at marriage are not God's people; they are not of those who are the best development of modern civilization; they are not illustrations either of social morality or of sound sense. They are the froth and scum that float and bubble upon the surface of social life. They are people of unbridled passions, sensual and selfish instincts or shallow minds. They are not the many, but the wild and reckless few. As a rule, marriage is not a failure, but quite the reverse. When it proves a failure, it is an exception to the rule, just as idiots, cranks, lunatics and moral lepers are exceptional developments of human evolution.—*Chicago Journal.*

### A New Fire Quicker.

The servant girl who pours kerosene oil on the fire, seems to have disappeared pretty completely. Perhaps she has been to a considerable extent exterminated. At any rate we don't often read of cases of explosion and conflagration, though the vigilant housekeeper, if she happens into the kitchen may still detect an odor which tells her that the girl must have poured oil on the kindling either before or after it was ignited. But the Laster has a case which may explain why kerosene accidents are not so frequent. The servant girl has discovered a new fire-quicker. It was in Boston, and not long ago, that the mistress of a house, not much given to going into the kitchen, entered one day, unexpectedly, just in time to catch her kitchen maid in the act of emptying a spoonful of granulated white sugar into the fire. Sugar is exceedingly inflammable, and its application made the fire flash up in excellent shape. The head of the house had noticed that he was called upon to pay for a great many barrels of sugar, and his wife had wondered at the family's enormous consumption of that article, but she did not wonder any more, especially as the girl, under pressure, confessed that she had regularly been using the sugar to quicken the fire. "Sure, mum," she said, "we must have the fire, an' the coal burns that slow that me heart is broke waitin' on it."—*Boston Transcript.*

### Two Pictures from Life.

Women have resources; they must have them. They can spend hours alone and enjoy themselves. I wonder how? Do they dream? Women never seem to lose their fancy, and there seems no age at which they can not recall their sentiments to their aid. But women have interests in the world that men, no matter how good, never have. "My little boy is quite sick," the father says to his friend as he meets him, "and I am quite alarmed about him."

The mother says but little, but she is by the bedside holding on to that little life with all her might. No thought is hers but to bring her darling back to health; her soul is all in the sick little one, and her eyes are tearless with the effort to save him. The father feels, but the mother suffers.—*San Francisco Chronicle.*

## PRIVATE HOSPITALS.

The Latest Freak for Wealthy Patients and Scientific Explorations.

The latest professional fad in this city is the private hospital idea, which threatens to become a craze. Almost every eminent surgeon has one or more private houses turned into hospitals for the reception and treatment of patients who can afford to pay extensive prices. These houses, which are usually elegant dwelling houses situated on Fifth, Madison or Lexington avenues, are furnished in the most luxurious style. The doctor has his office in the library. The parlor is made into an elegant reception room. The chambers and all other available rooms are fitted for patients of wealth. One room is set apart for the use of the doctor's assistants, usually young medical graduates who are glad to give their time for their living and the experience obtained. The most important part of the establishment is the patient, who must of course have plenty of money, and may be male or female. The complaints of both sexes are treated, though not usually in the same house. And these surgical retreats offer the inducement of perfect privacy to all their patrons, which is one secret of their success. As may be surmised from what has been said, many of the patients are people of means who do not wish their friends to know of their illness, and who have strong reasons for secrecy.

The first private hospital started in this city was that of a well-known gynecologist and obstetrician. In this establishment the diseases of women are exclusively treated, and the cost to each patient is about \$1,000 a month. There are often thirty or forty inmates, seldom less than ten or fifteen. So it will be seen this first venture was a success. If all the private hospitals for the treatment of women were of the same order, it would be a matter for public congratulation, but of the hundreds that have been opened by many doctors of doubtful schools of characters the majority are not above suspicion. Some of these private affairs are really the laboratories of human vivisectionists. More than one famous surgeon who has a hospital at his command sends the best of the hospital's cases to his own establishment, where he can experiment undisturbed by the supervision of human lay-trustees and other hospital officers.

A certain surgeon desired to obtain a large number of cases of abdominal section, a few years ago, and resolved to perform laparotomy whenever he could obtain a patient on whom there was the smallest excuse for this, the most difficult and deadly of all operations. He was one of the surgeons-in-chief of one of our largest hospitals, and proceeded to operate on the institution's charity patients on the slightest provocation. Before long the number of deaths from abdominal section in the hospital engaged the attention of the trustees, and the surgeon was summoned—privately, of course—before the board. After a long hearing they failed to agree as to whether or not he had abused his powers; but they agreed to forbid him in future to perform a capital operation without all the surgeons of the hospital concurred and were present. He had not yet obtained the scientific data that he desired, so resorted to the private hospital idea. He purchased a large house on Thirty-fourth street and fitted it up for a private hospital. Here he could, untrammelled, cut up his victims and obtain his scientific data. Here he sent all patients whom he could feel justified in operating on. Here he has slain his hundreds, and will slay his thousands before he gets done; then he will publish a book on abdominal surgery that will make him famous. As he is a wealthy man and can spend any amount of money to attain his ends, and works strictly within the letter of the law, nothing can stop him in his death-dealing career.

This is but one instance. There are many others. It is in these laboratories of science that most of the surgical sensations that appear in the public press originate.

There is one advantage gained by him, however: that is they are the best possible schools for the advancement of surgical science. "Talk about cutting up dogs and cats! Why, we cut up men—the worst animal for vivisection!" Such were the words, perhaps over enthusiastic, which the writer heard one of these students of anatomy utter.—*N. Y. Cor. St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

### M